

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2,4,6,7,8,9 and 10, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1,3 and 5 as follows:

1       1. (Currently Amended) An opener to facilitate the removal  
2       of a threaded lid from the top of a jar, said jar having an open  
3       mouth surrounded by a thread, said opener comprising a body  
4       [have] having an arcuate C-shape with an inner peripheral  
5       sidewall, an outer peripheral sidewall, an upper edge and a lower  
6       edge, said body terminating at two ends separated by [[a]] an  
7       open gap, an inwardly extending peripheral stop extending around  
8       said internal peripheral sidewall, adjacent to said upper edge,  
9       the region inside said internal peripheral sidewall and said stop  
10      being open, said body being made of a stiffly flexible self-shape  
11      retaining substance whereby said body can be spread conveniently  
12      to receive a lid, and restored to contact said lid and [gripped-  
13      to press] bearing against the lid while being twisted to remove  
14      the lid from the jar.

1       2. (Cancelled) An opener according to claim 1 in which said  
2       outer peripheral sidewall is formed with serrations to improve  
3       its grip characteristics for the hand of a user.

1       3. (Currently Amended) An opener according to claim 1 in  
2       which said inner sidewall includes a pair of portions of  
3       different diameter whereby to form a shoulder facing toward

4       [[the]] said lower edge so proportioned and arranged as to stop a  
5       rim on a lid to limit the downward travel of the lower edge,  
6       whereby said lower edge is prevented from contacting said jar.

1           4. (Cancelled) An opener according to claim 1 in which a  
2       stop extends around the inside of the said upper edge to prevent  
3       a lid from passing entirely through said body.

1           5. (Currently Amended) An opener according to claim 1 in  
2       which an abutment interconnects said ends of said body, bridging  
3       said gap, said abutment includes a pair of arms and a bight, said  
4       arms being connected to a respective end and to the bite  
5       projecting entirely beyond said outer sidewall whereby to be  
6       contactible by the thumb or a finger of a user, said abutment  
7       being unitary with said body, flexible and self-shape retaining.

1           6. (Cancelled) An opener according to claim 5 in which said  
2       abutment includes a pair of arms and a bight, said arms being  
3       connected to a respective end and to the bight.

1           7. (Cancelled) An opener according to claim 5 in which said  
2       inner sidewall includes a pair of portions of different diameter  
3       whereby to form a shoulder facing toward the lower edge so  
4       proportioned and arranged as to stop a rim on a lid to limit the  
5       downward travel of the lower edge, whereby said lower edge is

6 prevented from contacting said jar.

1       8. (Cancelled) An opener according to claim 7 in which said  
2 outer peripheral sidewall is formed with serrations to improve  
3 its grip characteristics for the hand of a user..

1       9. (Cancelled) An opener according to claim 7 in which said  
2 abutment includes a pair of arms and a bight, said arms being  
3 connected to a respective end and to the bight.

1       10. (Cancelled) An opener to facilitate the removal of a  
2 threaded lid from the top of a jar, said jar having an open mouth  
3 surrounded by a thread, said opener comprising a circular body  
4 with an inner peripheral sidewall, an outer peripheral sidewall,  
5 an upper edge and a lower edge, said body being made of a stiffly  
6 flexible self-shape retaining substance whereby said body can be  
7 spread conveniently to receive a lid, and gripped to press  
8 against the lid while being twisted to remove the lid from the  
9 jar, said inner sidewall including a pair of portions of  
10 different diameter whereby to form a shoulder facing toward the  
11 lower edge so proportioned and arranged as to stop a rim on a lid  
12 to limit the downward travel of the lower edge, whereby said  
13 lower edge is prevented from contacting said jar.